

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-19 (Cancelled).

Claim 20 (Original): A predicting method for predicting product recovery comprising:

inputting worth life of a product, useful life of the product, a recovery rate, a product manufacturing period, and the number of products;

generating a distribution of the number of products by calculating the average number of products based on the manufacturing period and the number of products;

generating a distribution of the number of recovery products by setting a recovery period corresponding to the manufacturing period and calculating the number of recovery products based on the number of products and the recovery rate; and

determining a product recovery time by a shorter one of the product worth life and the product useful life.

Claim 21 (Original): A predicting method for predicting product recovery comprising:

inputting worth life of a product, useful life of the product, a recovery rate, a product manufacturing period, and the number of products;

generating a triangle distribution of the number of products, the triangle distribution having a height corresponding to a peak of the number of products;

generating a triangle distribution of the number of recovery products by setting a recovery period corresponding to the manufacturing period and calculating the number of recovery products based on a recovery rate corresponding to the number of products; and
determining a product recovery time by a shorter one of the product worth life and the product useful life.

Claims 22-30 (Cancelled).

Claim 31 (Original): A computer program stored on a computer readable medium for aiding a plan, comprising:

instruction means for instructing a computer processor to input worth life of a product, useful life of the product, a recovery rate, a product manufacturing period, and the number of products;

instruction means for instructing the computer processor to generate a distribution of the number of products by calculating the average number of products based on the manufacturing period and the number of products;

instruction means for instructing the computer processor to generate a distribution of the number of recovery products by setting a recovery period corresponding to the manufacturing period and calculating the number of recovery products based on the number of products and the recovery rate; and

instruction means for instructing the computer processor to determine a product recovery time by a shorter one of the product worth life and the product useful life.

Claim 32 (Original): A computer program stored on a computer readable medium, comprising:

instruction means for instructing a computer processor to input worth life of a product, useful life of the product, a recovery rate, a product manufacturing period, and the number of products;

instruction means for instructing the computer processor to generate a triangle distribution of the number of products, the triangle distribution having a height corresponding to a peak of the number of products;

instruction means for instructing the computer processor to generate a triangle distribution of the number of recovery products by setting a recovery period corresponding to the manufacturing period and calculating the number of recovery products based on a recovery rate corresponding to the number of products; and

instruction means for instructing the computer processor to determine a product recovery time by a shorter one of the product worth life and the product useful life.